

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, I would assume that you wouldn't be able to, Senator Hefner. Normally, I wouldn't do this, I'd let it go, but this is the third time you have stood on the floor on this particular issue pretending to be the champion of state aid to education, challenging my credentials as not caring about the schools, not caring about state aid, not caring about the way we finance schools when anybody that has been here has known that has been a chief concern of mine that I've worked for throughout the years. Just would like to point out to the body May 11, 1987, attempt to override Governor's veto on state aid, Senator Hefner voting no. May 29, 1987, another attempt to override the Governor's veto on state aid, Senator Hefner voting no. May 29, 1987, I guess that might have been just the one I got through with. April 9, 1984, \$40 million state aid to education bill, passed over to the Governor, Senator Hefner voting no, Senator Withem voting yes on all those, by the way. April 18, 1980, before I got here, override to the Governor's veto, state aid to education, Senator Hefner voting no. So if we're talking about switching positions on here, I think the body needs to know that Senator Hefner has not been as consistent as he may like to be. We are doing some things in the area of school finance this year, some very important things in the area of school finance. We are passing LB 611, we are passing LB 84, we are working toward a long-term solution of the school finance problem. That is why I felt comfortable having no specific dollars appropriated to the old state aid to education formula this year because we are spending our energies getting to a lasting solution. Twenty million dollars will not bring about a lasting solution. Obviously, \$9 million won't. As a means of resolving the issue today though, I think the \$9 million bill is an appropriate sum of money and I will be supporting it.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I'm glad we got that cleared up and I hope maybe the rest of us can decide who is more in favor of state aid to education than the other because I think that is an important issue. But, beyond that, I really have to rise up and oppose the amendment. I guess I get nervous when Senator Lamb and Senator Withem get together on an amendment on the education, particularly on funding. I get very nervous at that particular point as to what has happened here. I guess it is probably beyond my depth of understanding. And I understand that the Chairman of Education